**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEAR___ING AUTHORITY**

JC06 Rec'd PCT/PTO 31 MAR 2005

10/530144

International application No
#EP2004/004148

Box No. II.   Priority

1. ☒   The following document has not yet been furnished:

☒   copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rules 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(a)).

☐   translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rules 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(b)).

Consequently it has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date is the claimed priority date.

2. ☐   This opinion has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rules 43*bis*.1 and 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this opinion, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.

3. ☐   It has not been possible to validate the priority claim since the International Search Authority had no access to a copy of the priority document at the time to perform the international search (Rule 17.1). Thus this office action was accomplished assuming that the relevant date for examination is the claimed priority date.

4.   Additional observations, if necessary:

Box No. V   Reasoned statement under Rule 43*bis*.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1.   Statement

Novelty	Yes: Claims	1-16
	No: Claims	
Inventive Step	Yes: Claims	1-16
	No: Claims	
Industrial Applicability	Yes: Claims	1-16
	No: Claims	

2.   Citations and explanations:

see separate sheet

Re Item V.

1   In the present opinion, reference is made to the following documents:

D1:   CHAKRABARTI S ET AL: "Using Memex to archive and mine community Web browsing experience" COMPUTER NETWORKS, ELSEVIER SCIENCE PUBLISHERS B.V., AMSTERDAM, NL, vol. 33, No 1-6, June 2000 (2000-06), pages 669-684, XP004304800 ISSN: 1389-1286

2   Document D1 is regarded as the closest prior art. It discloses (the references in brackets relate to this document):

"A method for setting up and updating a user interface for a user to access information pages (IS) in a data network," (abstract)

"where selected information pages (IS) are provided by a respective display element on the user interface for access by the user, and the information pages (IS) are respectively accessed by accessing the respective display element, and" (figure 1; figure 3; section 2.1 "Client-side design")

"~~where the information pages (IS) store contents, characterized,~~

~~in that the information pages (IS) have a respective associated content data record (IDS) created for them which stores features describing the respective content stored on the information page (IS),~~

"*in that the selected information pages (IS) are determined by creating a user data record having features which describe a sought content,*" (section 2.1.1. "Search tab")

"*in that the* ~~content data records (IDS)~~" ("captured hypertext and meta-data based on content" in section 1.2., first paragraph) "*are respectively compared with the user data record to determine the degree of match, and*

in that information pages (IS) for which the degree of match between the respective ~~content data record (IDS)~~ ("captured hypertext and meta-data based on content" in section 1.2., first paragraph)" *and the user data record achieves and/or exceeds a previously defined threshold are displayed on the user interface by display elements as selected information pages (IS).*" (section 2.1.1 "Search tab" for the possibility of sorting, which implies a relevance ranking, and section 2.1.2 "Folder tab" relating to classification and taxonomy)

from which the subject matter of independent claim 1 differs in that:

the data record and the content data record from the web page operator are physically separate on the web page, in the wording of the claim:
"*where the information pages (IS) store contents, characterized*
in that the information pages (IS) have a respective associated content data record (IDS) created for them which stores features describing the respective contents stored on the information page (IS),"

In that this content data record IDS, which cannot be altered by the user, is the basis for the recommendation system and the dynamically generated portal, in the wording of the claim

"*in that information pages (IS) for which the degree of match between the respective* <u>*content data record (IDS)*</u> *and the user data record achieves and/or exceeds a previously defined threshold are displayed on the user interface by display elements as selected information pages (IS).*"

2.1   The subject matter of claim 1 is thus novel (Article 33(2) PCT).

The object to be achieved by means of the present invention can thus be seen in that

without any action by the user a portal is provided which presents content pages which are likely to correspond to the user's interest. The maintenance of the stock of data on the portal or on the underlying recommendation system is likewise intended to be automated in this case.

2.2   The proposed way of achieving this object in claim 1 of the present application is based on an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) for the following reasons:

The methods known from the prior art are based on the evaluation of the navigation behavior of a user or a group of users (D1) or on the evaluation of the meta-tag provided by HTML. No document refers to a content data page, physically separate from the content page, whose structure can be altered and which can therefore hold more

information than a meta-tag.

2.3 Claims 2-15 are dependent on claim 1 and thus likewise meet the requirements of the PCT in relation to novelty and inventive step.

3 The same line of argument as for claim 1 also applies to the method in accordance with claim 16, with claim 16 containing additional technical features. These are necessary in order to implement the method according to claim 1. These additional features make clear the distinction from the prior art. Specifically, they are:

- The use of a proxy server. The proxy server is the separating filter between the content pages IS which are to be displayed graphically on the user computer and the content data pages IDS which are managed by a portal. The use of a proxy server and of a portal is the first feature which also allows the data to be captured by a plurality of users and evaluated centrally and then also made available to other users.

- Said portal

- The storage of the IDS in the XML format. This ensures that data structures can be defined which can hold additional information about the content page IS.